

VZCZCXYZ0014  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHC #2558 2192119  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 072103Z AUG 09  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO RUEHON/AMCONSUL TORONTO IMMEDIATE 0000  
INFO RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE 0000  
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0000  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEAORC/US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RHMFIUU/NRC WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RHMCSUU/FBI WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 0000  
RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD IMMEDIATE  
RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 082558

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [KNNP](#) [MNUC](#) [ASEC](#) [KCRM](#) [PARM](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [CA](#) [XS](#)  
SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO ONTARIO POWER GENERATION REGARDING A  
USG REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR HELIUM-3 EXTRACTION

REF: A. TORONTO 000173  
[1](#)B. STATE 078415  
[1](#)C. TORONTO 000163  
[1](#)D. STATE 075002  
[1](#)E. OTTAWA 000522  
[1](#)F. STATE 69767

[1](#)1. (U) This is an action request for Consulate General  
Toronto. Please see paragraph 3.

[1](#)2. (SBU) BACKGROUND: Per REF B and in response to REF A and  
C, Washington has agreed to draft a Request for Proposal to  
Ontario Power Generation (OPG) regarding estimated costs  
associated with the transfer of Canadian stores of Helium-3  
to the United States. Per REF C, the Request for Proposal  
allows OPG to initiate a dialogue to develop a mutually  
acceptable agreement for transfer of Helium-3. Rather than  
issue a formal Request for Proposal at this time, a Request  
for Information has been generated (see paragraph 4) in order  
to engage OPG in a dialogue and obtain certain information  
for the effort to proceed. Once some of this information has  
been provided, it will be possible to hold an initial  
face-to-face meeting with "people who can talk business and  
decisions makers" that will lay the groundwork for technical  
discussions between technical experts.

[1](#)3. (SBU) ACTION REQUEST: Washington requests that ConGen  
Toronto provide the Request for Information in paragraph 4 to  
appropriate OPG officials for their review by Monday, August  
10, 2009.

[1](#)4. (SBU) REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO OPG REGARDING ESTIMATED  
COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSFER OF CANADIAN STORES OF HE-3  
TO THE U.S.

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) provides the  
following elements for consideration and requests information  
and estimated costs pertaining to delivery of He-3 to the DOE  
Savannah River Site:

--A. OPG would package their solid storage units of helium  
mixture for transport to the Savannah River Site. This will  
involve packaging that is compliant with Canadian and U.S.  
transportation requirements.

--B. OPG will allow DOE observers on-site during the  
packaging and loading.

--C. OPG will advise what, if any, monitoring and reporting

requirements for the extraction of gases are needed for their records or to meet Canadian Government requirements.

--D. DOE will accept responsibility for the ultimate disposition of the storage material, thereby relieving OPG of any return transportation and final disposition costs.

--E. Any suggested thoughts on a formula for the costs of extracted materials.

--F. DOE will provide storage units for future gas loading. Would these storage units need to be certified in Canada, or is US certification applicable? On a periodic basis, these units would be packaged and shipped to the US as described in item 1.

--G. A schedule and negotiation framework for future shipments of solid storage units from future OPG operations will be proposed.

--H. The United States anticipates a current and ongoing need of He-3 along with future He-3 OPG production.

--I. The United States would like to begin receiving He-3 on or before October 1, 2010, and would like to have all available quantities transferred by October 1, 2011.

15. (SBU) REPORTING DEADLINE: Washington requests that ConGen Toronto respond via front-channel cable no later than August 17, 2009.

16. (SBU) Washington appreciates Post's assistance. Contact Michael Curry (currymr@state.gov, 202-736-7692) in ISN/WMDT for additional information.  
CLINTON